

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05

BIB-01 /089 W

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R 121115Z JUL 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1120

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0166

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0353

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL AND DISTO

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JULY 7-13, 1975

1. SUMMARY: FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF THE ISSUE OF FORCE

DEFINITIONS CONTINUED TO BE THE FOCUS OF THE VIENNA TALKS

THIS WEEK. THE JULY 8 INFORMAL SESSION AND EAST-WEST BILATERALS

STRENGTHENED THE IMPRESSION OF GRADUAL EASTERN MOVEMENT TOWARD

THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE TWO-FORCE DEFINITION ADVOCATED BY

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THE WEST. BUT, DIFFERENCES OF VIEW ARE SUFFICIENT TO PRECLUDE

RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE BEFORE THE SUMMER RECESS, NOW SET TO BEGIN JULY 21. THE GREEK JULY 10 PLENARY STATEMENT REVIEWED THE WESTERN POSITION ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES, RECAPITULATED SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ALREADY ADVANCED BY THE WEST AND URGED THE EAST TO BREAK ITS MORE THAN TWENTY MONTHS OF SILENCE BY ENTERING INTO CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT EARLY IN THE NEXT ROUND. (END SUMMARY).

2. A LENGTHY JULY 8 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA TALKS WAS DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE QUESTION OF FORCE DEFINITIONS, WITH SOVIET REP KHLESTOV IN PRACTICE THE SOLE EASTERN SPOKESMAN. GENERAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE SEEMED TO EMERGE THAT: ANY AGREED DEFINITION SHOULD BE COMPREHENSIVE AND INCLUDE ALL FORCES IN THE AREA APART FROM THE NAVY; FOR THE WEST, THIS MEANT PERSONNEL ONLY, WHEREAS FOR THE EAST, IT MEANT BOTH PERSONNEL AND ARMAMENTS; ANY COMPREHENSIVE DEFINITION SHOULD ALSO CONTAIN A DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN MILITARY PERSONNEL FALLING UNDER THE SCOPE OF POSSIBLE AGREEMENTS AND THOSE NOT UNDER THE SCOPE OF AGREEMENTS; AND THAT ALL ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL IN THE AREA SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO GROUND FORCES OR TO AIR FORCES.

3. KHLESTOV MADE REPEATED EFFORTS TO GAIN ALLIED AGREEMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT ALL MILITARY FORCES IN THE AREA PERFORMING THE SAME FUNCTION OR HAVING THE SAME MISSION WOULD BE ASSIGNED TOGETHER EITHER TO GROUND FORCES OR TO AIR FORCES. ALLIED REPS SAID THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO HAVE TIME TO THOROUGHLY EXPLORE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS APPROACH BEFORE TAKING ANY POSITION TOWARDS IT. THEIR ANSWER INDICATED THAT A REPLY WOULD NOT BE FORTHCOMING DURING THIS ROUND.

4. KHLESTOV RAISED THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE DEFINITIONS' ISSUE BEFORE THE PRESENT ROUND ENDED ON JULY 18. (THE AD HOC GROUP HAD PREVIOUSLY DECIDED NOT TO RESPOND TO HIS EARLIER INITIATIVE TO SCHEDULE AN ADDITIONAL INFORMAL SESSION FOR THIS PURPOSE.) ALLIED REPS REPLIED THEY HAD NO REPEAT NO FURTHER FUNDAMENTAL POINTS TO DEVELOP ON THIS ISSUE, BUT LEFT OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF DEVOTING PART OF THE INFORMAL SESSION REGULARLY PLANNED FOR JULY 15 TO THIS TOPIC IF THE EAST HAD SOMETHING FURTHER TO ADD ON IT.

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5. AT SOVIET INVITATION, A JULY 10 BILATERAL MEETING INVOLVING SENIOR US AND SOVIET DELOFFS EXPLORED FURTHER THE MATTER OF FORCE DEFINITIONS. THE CONVERSATION APPEARED TO CONFIRM THE AREAS OF GENERAL AGREEMENT IDENTIFIED ABOVE.

6. AT THIS MEETING, KHLESTOV MADE CLEAR HEONLY HAD THREE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THE PROPOSED WESTERN DEFINITION:

(A) FRG TACTICAL NUCLEAR MISSILE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO GROUND FORCES RATHER THAN AIR FORCES; (B) ALL AREA AIR DEFENSE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO THE AIR FORCES; (C) HELICOPTER PERSONNEL AND PERSONNEL OPERATING LIGHT FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO THE GROUND FORCES.

7. KHLESTOV MADE REPEATED EFFORTS TO GAIN AGREEMENT OF US REP (RESOR) TO THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE THAT THE SAME TYPES OF FORCES SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO THE SAME MAJOR FORCE CATEGORY, EITHER AIR FORCES OR GROUND FORCES, AS A MEANS OF DISPOSING OF DISPUTED CATEGORIES. US REP SAID THE ALLIES WOULD HAVE TO STUDY THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL FURTHER BEFORE GIVING ANY REACTION.

8. AT THE JULY 10 PLENARY MEETING THE GREEK REP (SPYRIDAKIS) DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT. HE REVIEWED THE WESTERN POSITION ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES AND ATTEMPTS, TO DATE UNAVAILING, TO ENGAGE THE EAST IN A DIALOGUE ON THESE ISSUES. SPYRIDAKIS RECAPITULATED THE SIX SPECIFIC STABILIZING MEASURES PROPOSED BY THE WEST "TO REGULATE THE LEVELS AND ACTIVITIES OF US AND SOVIET GROUND FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS" FOLLOWING A FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT. HE CITED THE IMPORTANCE THE WEST ATTACHED TO PROVISIONS FOR ADEQUATE VERIFICATION AND FOR "ENSURING THAT REDUCTIONS AGREEMENTS ARE NOT CIRCUMVENTED OR UNDERMINED." THE GREEK REP URGED THE EAST TO BREAK ITS SILENCE ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES AND TO "ENTER INTO A CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION" OF THIS SUBJECT "EARLY IN THE NEXT ROUND."

9. THE AHG APPROVED THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE PRECEDING WEEK CONFIRMING ALLIED AGREEMENT TO THE EASTERN PROPOSAL THAT THE SUMMER RECESS OF THE VIENNA TALKS BEGIN JULY 21 AND END SEPTEMBER 22. RESOR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MBFRV00353
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750241-0924
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750761/aaaacccb.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by lzenbel0>; APPROVED <15 JUL 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JULY 7-13, 1975
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006